



BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
October 2, 2019  
Summit Township Hall  
2121 Ferguson Rd, Jackson, MI

The meeting was called to order by President Kenny Price at 7:07 P.M.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:** Kenny Price, Deb Snell Kay Brown, Cathy Jehnzen, Dan Kaser, Jeff Lolkus, John Minar, Kurt Rudolph, and Benji Ward

**Absent:**, Kurt LaFrance, Jack Ripstra, & Jon Hoyle

**Guest:** none

**AGENDA REVIEW:**

There was a motion to accept the emailed agenda by Kurt Rudolph.

Second: Dan Kaser

Approve: all

**MINUTES:**

There was a motion to accept the emailed September minutes as corrected by Kurt Rudolph.

Second: Kay Brown

Approve: all

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:**

GREAT has 132 members, 114 have paid.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The Treasurer's report was received via email and there were no questions.

**RIVER MASTER'S REPORT:**

Dan Kaser reported that the river was cleared for the upcoming paddle with the exception of one large tree trunk completely across the river between Berry Rd and Lansing Ave. There will need to be a couple members to stay at this location to pull paddlers across this point. Due to the recent heavy rains the river has risen and fallen, which has likely undone some of the prior work. Therefore, a pre paddle is needed on Friday, October 4 at 2PM meeting at the Pole Barn. Hand saws and loppers are the recommended tools, ropes and straps will be useful for moving & securing debris already cut.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Kenny had the following discussion items:

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- October Paddle: The Trip Sheet responsibilities was completed. It was recommended that the trip is best handled by kayak due to some challenging twists and turns due to the downed debris. Deb will inform those who have signed up for the three canoes. The river is also deep and the trip will be challenging. It is clear except for the one large downed tree across the river. The paddle will begin at the Maple Grove MDNR boat launch and finish on the North side of State Rd near US 127. Vehicles will be parked on the West side of State Rd to avoid private land.
- Paddling Event for JROTC – The September 8 event was cancelled, because of a lack of JROTC supervision.
- Next Newsletter – Deb reviewed the assignments for articles.

- Annual Meeting – There was a discussion of potential speakers for the Annual meeting. Current options include: PFAS at Michner Plating, Mary Schafer, EGLE Superfund Site; and Grand River Expedition 2020
- Next Meeting – The next meeting will be limited to a discussion of the lack of attendance at events in 2019 and how we might increase attendance in 2020.

**Standing Committees:**

**Communication/Newsletter:** We have received a couple items regarding printing of Newsletters. Jack Lapinski sent a letter informing GREAT that he will no longer cover the cost of Newsletter printing and sent a check for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Newsletter. GREAT also received a past due notice for printing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Newsletters amounting to \$288. Jack will be thanked for his years of underwriting the printing. The board agreed to have Deb look for lower cost alternatives to Allegra Printing.

**Finances:** No report.

**Activities & Calendar:** No report.

**Education & Advocacy:** No report.

**Annual Cleanup:** all went well.

**Nominations:** No report.

**GREAT Equipment:** Cathy Jehnzen reported that she has been looking at folding signs GREAT events and shuttle vehicle signs options and will report out in November.

**River Debris Removal:** No report.

**GREAT land:** Kay Brown reported that Northwest Schools will be building the signs shortly (a 24"x30" Cardinal and a 33"x39" GREAT logo).

**AD HOC COMMITTEES:**

**Water Trail:** The Jackson County Parks Department (JCPD) is the current lead on the water trail in Jackson County. The JCPD has submitted two MDNR Trust Fund Grant requests for adaptive kayak launch sites at Little Wolf Lake Park and Vandercook Lake Park. GREAT has been identified (and signed off in agreement) as an annual user of the two sites.

**Grand River Trail Map and Booklet:** on hold.

**RELATED GROUPS:**

**Watershed Council:** No report.

**Earth Day:** No report.

**JCCD:** Jeff Lolkus reported that this Saturday, October 5 from 9AM-2PM there will be an Adopt-a-Stream event (show up at the Conservation District office). Then there will be Bug ID night at Jackson College on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34.

The next monthly meeting will be November 13, 2019 at Blackman Township Hall at 7:00 P.M.,

Kurt Rudolph, Recorder of Minutes

*The mission of GREAT is to promote the protection and preservation of the Grand River Watershed through activities and educational programs.*